

P22165.A01

6. (Amended-Clean Text) The agent according to claim 1, wherein the mixture of cyclic and/or straight chain poly lactic acids having a condensation degree of 3 to 19 is a fraction obtained by condensing lactic acids by dehydration under an inactive atmosphere, subjecting the ethanol and methanol-soluble fractions of the obtained reaction solution to reverse phase column chromatography, and eluting with 25 to 50 weight % acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH 2 to 3 and then with 90 weight % or more acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH 2 to 3.

8. (Amended-Clean Text) The agent according to claim 6, wherein reverse phase column chromatography is performed by ODS column chromatography.

Please add new claims 10-17 as follows:

---10. The agent according to claim 2, wherein the lactic acid that is a repeating unit in the poly lactic acid consists substantially of L-lactic acid.

11. The agent according to claim 3, wherein the lactic acid that is a repeating unit in the poly lactic acid consists substantially of L-lactic acid.

P22165.A01

12. The agent according to claim 4, wherein the lactic acid that is a repeating unit in the poly lactic acid consists substantially of L-lactic acid.

AB 13. The agent according to claim 2, wherein the mixture of cyclic and/or straight chain poly lactic acids having a condensation degree of 3 to 19 is a fraction obtained by condensing lactic acids by dehydration under an inactive atmosphere, subjecting the ethanol and methanol-soluble fractions of the obtained reaction solution to reverse phase column chromatography, and eluting with 25 to 50 weight % acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH 2 to 3 and then with 90 weight % or more acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH 2 to 3.

14. The agent according to claim 3, wherein the mixture of cyclic and/or straight chain poly lactic acids having a condensation degree of 3 to 19 is a fraction obtained by condensing lactic acids by dehydration under an inactive atmosphere, subjecting the ethanol and methanol-soluble fractions of the obtained reaction solution to reverse phase column chromatography, and eluting with 25 to 50 weight % acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH 2 to 3 and then with 90 weight % or more acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH 2 to 3.

15. The agent according to claim 4, wherein the mixture of cyclic and/or straight chain poly lactic acids having a condensation degree of 3 to 19 is a fraction obtained by

P22165.A01

condensing lactic acids by dehydration under an inactive atmosphere, subjecting the ethanol and methanol-soluble fractions of the obtained reaction solution to reverse phase column chromatography, and eluting with 25 to 50 weight % acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH2 to 3 and then with 90 weight % or more acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH 2 to 3.

16. The agent according to claim 5, wherein the mixture of cyclic and/or straight chain poly lactic acids having a condensation degree of 3 to 19 is a fraction obtained by condensing lactic acids by dehydration under an inactive atmosphere, subjecting the ethanol and methanol-soluble fractions of the obtained reaction solution to reverse phase column chromatography, and eluting with 25 to 50 weight % acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH2 to 3 and then with 90 weight % or more acetonitrile aqueous solution of pH 2 to 3.

17. The agent according to claim 7, wherein reverse phase column chromatography is performed by ODS column chromatography.---

REMARKS

By the above amendment, claims 5, 6, and 8 have been amended and claims 10-17 have been added to delete multiple dependency.